

[Translation]

Load Capacity of NH-8

2415. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of vehicles plying daily on the National Highway No. 8 on Delhi-Jaipur-Ajmer-Udaipur-Ahmedabad route is more than its load bearing capacity;

(b) if so, the ratio between the vehicles and the load bearing capacity of the above National Highway; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to remove the imbalance in the above ratio?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) No such ratio exists between the vehicles and the road bearing capacity of the National Highway. However, the pavement design is based on allowable axle load, repetitions thereof, condition of soil, rainfall, etc. For NH 8, some sections have been accordingly strengthened and some have yet to be attended to.

(c) Strengthening and widening of this road is included in the IXth Plan.

[English]

Indo-Bhutan River Project

2416. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been invited to the newsitem captioned "Indo-Bhutan river project may spell doom for North Bengal" appearing in the 'Week-end Observer of Business and Politics', New Delhi dated February 8, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein, as per his Ministry's information;

(c) his reaction thereto; and

(d) the stage at which the Sankosh Project stands at present and whether its environmental impact assessment study has since been completed and if so, its outcome?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The detailed Project Report prepared by the Central Water Commission envisages construction of dams across the river Sankosh for generation of 4060 MW of Power. The regulated discharge is also proposed for irrigation and other purposes in Bihar and West Bengal territory. Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) studies have been carried out by Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) and final Report on

EIA studies is under examination by the Central Water Commission. Ministry of Environment and Forest would be approached for further examination before seeking investment clearance for the canal component of the project which lies in the Indian Territory.

Nuclear Free Zone

2417. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a resolution for creating a Nuclear Free Zone in South Asia was adopted in the first meeting of UN General Assembly in December, 1996 with 130 members supporting and only three opposing it; and

(b) if so, the precise content of the resolution, and stand taken in this regard by India, Pakistan and other nations in the region?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 11th November, 1996 the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution titled "Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon-Free Zone in South Asia" by 130 votes in favour with 3 votes against and 8 abstentions. The resolution was introduced by Pakistan and co-sponsored by Bangladesh. Sri Lanka, Nepal and Maldives voted in favour of the resolution, India and Bhutan voted against the resolution. In its explanation of vote, India stated that it does not regard South Asia as a region or zone for purpose of disarmament and security given the fact that its strategic and political interests and concerns extend beyond its immediate geographical neighbours, India also said that this resolution does not meet the UN endorsed requirement that establishment of NWFZs should be based on an appropriate definition of the region, taking into account the specific characteristics of the region and the full range of security concerns of the States of the region. Such zones must be established on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at by the States concerned.

Nehru Yuvak Kendras in Gujarat

2418. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Nehru Yuvak Kendras are functioning in Gujarat at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) whether more Nehru Yuvak Kendras are planned in the State;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(e) the average expenditure incurred on each Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN) : (a) and (b) 19 Nehru Yuva Kendras are functioning in the State of Gujarat which are situated at Bharuch, Nadiad, Kutch (Bhuj), Godhra, Sabarkantha, Junagarh, Mehsana, Surendra Nagar, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar, Valsad, Surat, Gandhi Nagar, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Dangs, Amreli, Palampur and Rajkot.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The approximate expenditure incurred during 1995-96 on each Kendra is Rs. 3,45,250/-.

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects in M.P.

2419. SHRIMATI CHHABILA ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals regarding irrigation projects received from Madhya Pradesh Government for the clearance of the Union Government;

(b) the number out of these still pending with the Union Government; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Out of 26 major and 7 medium irrigation projects received from Government of Madhya Pradesh since March, 1979, 11 major and 3 medium projects are at various stages of appraisal by Central Agencies. The remaining project reports have been returned to Madhya Pradesh Government for non-compliance of observations of Central Appraisal Agencies.

Complaints Advisory Board

2420. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of complaints have decreased after the constitution of complaints advisory board in the office of the Chief of the Army Staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to ensure required fairness and transparency in the functioning of the said board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) A Complaints Advisory Board was constituted in the office of the Chief of the Staff in February, 1986 to consider the complaints of serving personnel primarily pertaining to career

matters such as supersessions and perceived adverse or low gradings/remarks in Annual Confidential Reports etc. The purpose of constituting the Board was to ensure proper in-depth examination of the complaints, and to render suitable advice to the COAS for their disposal.

2. There has been no significant change in the number of complaints received, after the constitution of the CAB.

[English]

Demands of A.I.K.V.T.A.

2421. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association has demanded U.P.S.C. type open examination for the recruitment of Principals in K.V.S.; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has received a demand from the All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers Association for introducing open examination for recruitment of Principals in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. This matter falls within the purview of the delegated powers of the Sangathan.

N.S.C.

2422. DR. M. JAGANNATH :

SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :

SHRI DINSHA PATEL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the objective for which National Security Council and National Security Advisory Board were set up;

(b) whether both the Council and the Board had no meeting for a long time; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and action proposed by the Government to activate the National Security Council and National Security Advisory Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) The main endeavour of the National Security Council is to evolve an integrated approach to policy making as it affects national security, taking into account the linkages between the evolving external situation in the political, military and economic fields and our domestic situation. The National Security Advisory Board consisting of 35 members from the different concerned fields, was constituted for providing a broader cross-section of views on the working of the National Security Council.